

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MEXICO 15029 282207Z

63

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 USSS-00 /026 W

----- 029510

O R 282045Z NOV 76 ZFF-4

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO USDEL ACAPULCO IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8894

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 15029

EXDIS

EO 11652 : GDS

TAGS : OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.) MX

SUBJ : SECRETARY'S VISIT TO MEXICO: DIEGO RIVERA COLLECTION

1. WITH REGARD SUGGESTED VISITS FOR TUESDAY AFTERNOON, RECOMMEND SECRETARY SEE PRIVATE COLLECTION OF DIEGO RIVERA'S PAINTINGS AND PRE-HISPANIC ARTIFACTS IN HOME OF MS. LOLA OLMEDO, LIFE-LONG FRIEND AND SOMETIME COMPANION OF RIVERA. LOCATED IN XOCHIMILCO (SO-CHEE-MILL-KO), A MAJOR PRE-SPANISH AZTEC CITY ON OUTSKIRTS OF MEXICO CITY, OLMEDA'S HOME IS A RESTORED SIXTEENTH CENTURY MANSION USED AS THE LIVING QUARTERS OF FIRST SPANISH LEADERS FOLLOWING THE CONQUEST. SHE IS A FRIEND OF AMBASSADOR'S AND WOULD LOOK FORWARD TO RECEIVING THE SECRETARY.

2. THE COLLECTION CONSISTS OF 80-90 PAINTINGS, WATERCOLORS AND DRAWINGS OF RIVERA (1886-1957), MEXICO'S MOST FAMOUS ARTIST AND MURALIST WHOSE CONSUMING PASSIONS WERE THE MEXICAN REVOLUTION AND THE NATION'S PRE-COLUMBIAN HERITAGE. IT IS PERHAPS THE MOST OUTSTANDING COLLECTION OF HIS WORKS IN EXISTENCE, WITH REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLINGS OF THE MANY PERIODS OF HIS WORK: CLASSIC, CUBIST, MURALISM, PORTRAITURE. ONE OF THE MOST FASCINATING ASPECTS OF THE COLLECTION IS A GROUP OF 20 SMALL OILS OF ACAPULCO SUNSETS, PAINTED ON 20 CONSECUTIVE DAYS FROM MS. OLMEDA'S PRIVATE VACATION HOME THE YEAR BEFORE HE DIED.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MEXICO 15029 282207Z

3. INTERMINGLED WITH THE PAINTINGS ARE NEARLY A THOUSAND PRE-COLUMBIAN FIGURINES AND ARTIFACTS GROUPED IN FOUR SECTIONS: WESTERN MEXICO, GULF COAST, YUCATAN (MAYA) AND OAXACA. EACH PIECE IS SPECTACULAR, THE WHOLE COLLECTION OVERWHELMING.

4. MS. OLMEDA, PRESENT OWNER OF THE HOME, IS ABOUT 60 YEARS OLD WITH THOROUGHLY ENGAGING PERSONALITY. SHE HAS KNOWN WELL MOST OF MEXICO'S PRESIDENTS AND INTELLECTUALS SINCE THE THIRTIES AND IS AN INTIMATE OF THE COUNTRY'S LEADERS AND LEADING FAMILIES. (HER SON, ALFKEDO PHILLIPS OLMEDO, IS A HIGH BANK OF MEXICO OFFICIAL AND CLOSE ECONOMIC ADVISOR TO LOPEZ PORTILLO.)

5. EMBASSY ESTIMATES SECRETARY WOULD HAVE SUFFICIENT TIME FOR VISIT SINCE THE HOME CAN BE REACHED FROM AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE IN SOME 30 MINUTES. FORTY-FIVE MINUTES SHOULD BE ALLOWED FOR THE TOUR OF THE HOUSE.

6. SHOULD THE SECRETARY PREFER THE TUESDAY AFTERNOON TIME FOR OTHER PURPOSES, THIS TOUR COULD BE RESCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY MORNING.

7. OF COURSE, THE ANTHROPOLOGICAL MUSEUM IS ALWAYS A POSSIBILITY FOR EITHER TUESDAY AFTERNOON OR THURSDAY MORNING, AND HAS THE ADVANTAGE OF BEING MORE CENTRALLY LOCATED.
JOVA

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 NOV 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MEXICO15029
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760441-0103
From: MEXICO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t1976118/aaaaahbw.tel
Line Count: 90
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 JUL 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <05 NOV 2004 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECRETARY'S VISIT TO MEXICO: DIEGO RIVERA COLLECTION
TAGS: OVIP, MX, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)
To: ACAPULCO
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006